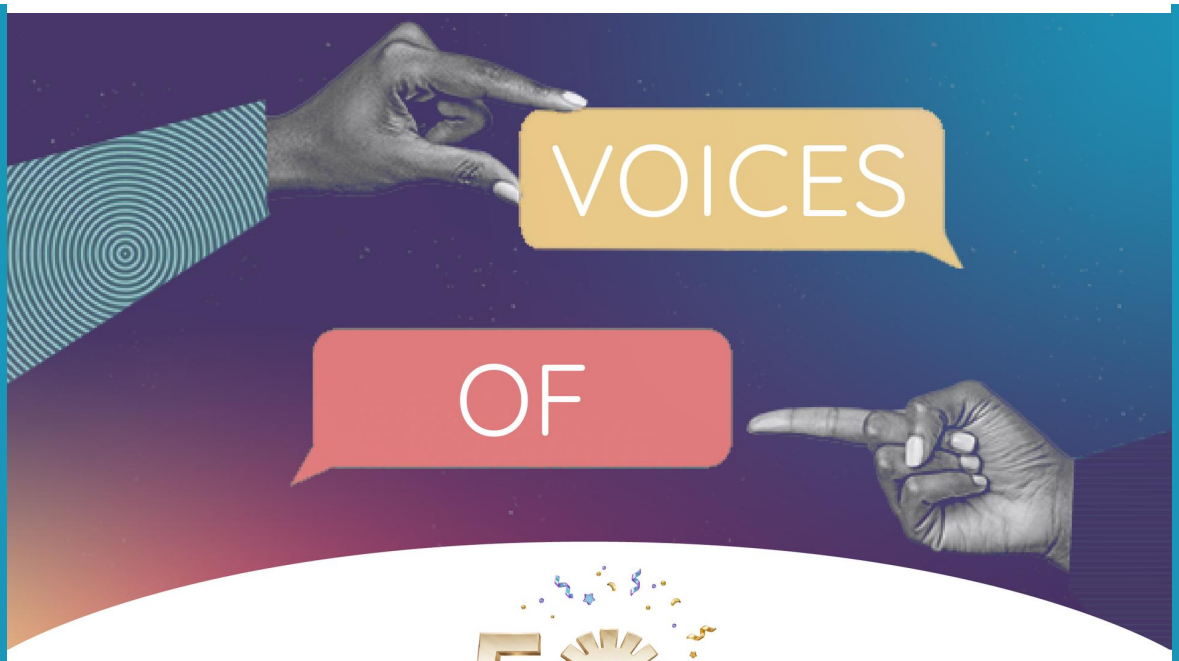

50 years of

YOUNITY

Together we are stronger than abuse.

FORMERLY WOMANSPACE

1977–2027
Celebrating 50 Years of Standing with Victim-Survivors

Celebrating 50 Years of Younity

Our year-long Golden Anniversary celebration continues!
Throughout the coming year, we'll share stories from our history, celebrate the people and communities who have shaped Younity, and look ahead to the work still to come.

OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

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Younity Store
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LOOKING AHEAD:
A message from our CEO & President, Nathalie S. Nelson



Dear Friends,

August is a time of transition. As summer begins to wind down and students prepare to return to school, we are looking ahead at Younity, too.

Prevention is an important part of that future. This summer, our Peer Educators have been preparing to bring conversations about healthy relationships, consent, warning signs, and available resources back to their schools. With students participating from across Mercer County, the program is expanding its reach and helping the next generation become part of the work of preventing violence.

Across Younity, we are also seeing what becomes possible when we strengthen relationships throughout our community. Our growing partnership with the **Stephanie Nicole Parze Foundation** and local law enforcement is helping bring **Stephanie's Sanctuary** to police departments across Mercer County. New relationships, like our connection with **The Linen Closet**, are bringing comfort and care directly to families we serve. And at **National Night Out**, our team was present in communities throughout the county, sharing resources, meeting neighbors, and reminding people that Younity is here when they need us.

I recently returned from Austin, Texas, where our Vice President of Operations and I joined domestic violence professionals from across the country for the **National Domestic Violence Hotline's annual conference.** We were especially proud to see **Younity Board member Tommi Vincent t**ake the stage as the keynote speaker. Opportunities like this allow us to exchange ideas, build relationships, and bring new perspectives home to strengthen our work in Mercer County.

As we approach 50 years of standing with victim-survivors, I am reminded that no organization does this work alone. **Our reach grows when we work together**, across schools, neighborhoods, police departments, community organizations, and with partners who share our commitment to creating a safer Mercer County.

Thank you for being part of Younity.

Warmly,



Nathalie S. Nelson
CEO & President

YOUNITY's PEER EDUCATION PROGRAM:
Why Teens Listen to Teens



Empowering Teens to Lead the Conversation

Younity's Peer Educator Program is growing, and **Grace Flagler, Prevention & Community Educator, and Ken Odenheimer, Prevention Educator Assistant,** are helping prepare a new group of teens to lead the way.

This year, 12 Peer Educators from schools across Mercer County are learning how to recognize warning signs, support friends with empathy, and start conversations about healthy relationships, dating violence, and consent.

The idea is simple but powerful. When it comes to relationships and the pressures teens face, sometimes the person they are most likely to listen to is another teen.

With training and support from Grace and Ken, Peer Educators will bring what they learn back to their own schools, helping their peers understand what healthy, respectful relationships can look like and where to turn when something doesn't feel right.

READ ABOUT OUR PEER EDUCATION PROGRAM

STEPHANIE'S SANCTUARY EXPANDS ACROSS MERCER COUNTY



"This is what community looks like."
VARONDA KENDRICK



A police station may be where a victim-survivor first reaches safety. It shouldn't be another place that feels frightening.

Younity is partnering with the **Stephanie Nicole Parze Foundation** and local law enforcement to expand **Stephanie's Sanctuary**, creating comfortable, welcoming spaces where victim-survivors can meet with advocates and police during a crisis. Created in memory of 25-year-old **Stephanie Parze**, the Sanctuaries transform traditional police interview rooms into supportive spaces designed to offer privacy, comfort, and reassurance.

The first Mercer County Sanctuary opened in Trenton in July. Ewing is next, followed by Robbinsville, as the partnership works toward bringing these spaces to police departments throughout Mercer County.

READ MORE ABOUT STEPHANIE'S SANCTUARY

A NEW PARTNERSHIP BRINGS COMFORT HOME



Sometimes, something as simple as fresh, new sheets can help a new space begin to feel like home.

Thanks to a new partnership with **The Linen Closet**, Younity recently received **30 brand-new sheet sets** for families in our Transitional Housing Program, including 20 twin sets and 10 full sets.

The partnership began when **Geraldo Sierra, Younity's Program Coordinator of Transitional Housing,** reached out to The Linen Closet to explore ways our organizations could work together. What impressed Geraldo most was the care they put into the donation. The Linen Closet took time to learn about the families Younity was serving, asking about the children, their ages and interests, and choosing colors and patterns with individual families in mind.

"It wasn't just about sending us sheets," Geraldo said. "You could see the care they put into choosing what they sent for each family."

Each delivery also included The Linen Closet's *You Are Loved* cards, another small reminder of the thought behind the gift.

And the connection doesn't end with this delivery. **The Linen Closet** has invited Younity to stay in touch as future linen needs arise, creating an ongoing resource for families as they move toward greater stability and independence.

Thank you to The Linen Closet for bringing care and comfort to Younity families, and to Geraldo for building a connection that will continue to make a difference.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: YOUNITY ACROSS MERCER COUNTY



Younity was out in force for **National Night Out,** joining communities across Mercer County for an evening of connection, conversation, and fun.

Staff, board members, and volunteers represented Younity at **10 National Night Out events across the county**, connecting with neighbors, sharing resources, answering questions, and making sure people know that Younity is here when they need us.

You could find our teams in **Trenton, Hamilton, Lawrence, Ewing, Hopewell/Pennington, Princeton, West Windsor, East Windsor, Hightstown, and Robbinsville**, all in one night. Being present in the community is an important part of Younity's work. Every conversation is an opportunity to raise awareness, share resources, and help someone know where to turn for support. Events like National Night Out also give us a chance to strengthen the relationships and partnerships that help build safer communities throughout Mercer County.

Thank you to the Younity staff, board members, volunteers, and community partners who helped make it possible for us to show up across the county.

National Night Out may last just one evening, but building strong, connected communities is work we do all year long. We can't wait for next year!





Throughout our 50th anniversary year, we'll highlight opportunities to connect, learn, volunteer, and celebrate with Younity. From community events and awareness campaigns to signature fundraisers and special anniversary moments, this is where you'll find what's coming up next. We hope you'll join us!

MEET YOUNITY'S PEER EDUCATORS AT THE HOPEWELL HARVEST FAIR
Hopewell Elementary School | September 19, 2026 | 10 AM to 4 PM



HOPEWELL
HARVEST FAIR

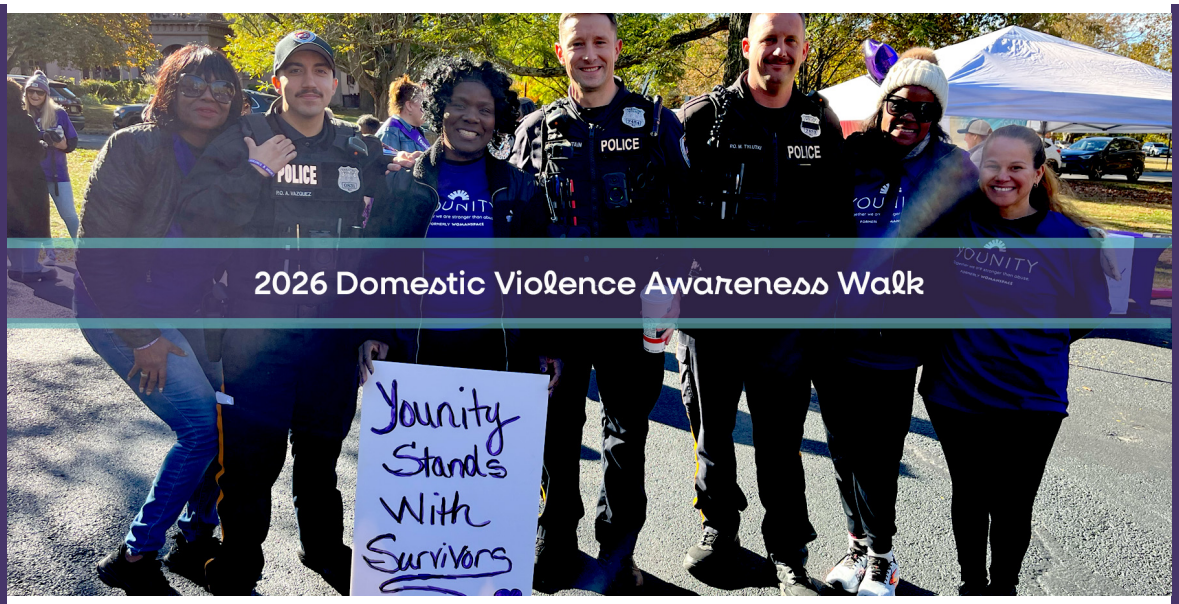
Come say hello to Younity's 2026–2027 Peer Educators at the **Hopewell Harvest Fair on Saturday, September 19, from 10 AM to 4 PM at Hopewell Elementary School.**

Our Peer Educators will be joining the fun with creative activities and crafts for kids while sharing information about Younity's Peer Educator Program and the work they're doing to promote healthy relationships among teens throughout Mercer County.

Stop by the Younity table, meet some of this year's Peer Educators, make something fun, and learn more about how teens are helping lead conversations about healthy relationships in their schools and communities.

Saturday, September 19 | 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Hopewell Elementary School | Hopewell, NJ

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS WALK
October 24, 2026



We come together.

As Younity celebrates 50 years of standing beside survivors, this year's **Domestic Violence Awareness Walk** is an opportunity to honor five decades of advocacy, remember those impacted by abuse, and reaffirm our commitment to a future free from violence.

Join survivors, families, advocates, community partners, and supporters as we walk together in hope, remembrance, and solidarity. Every step reminds us that when a community comes together, we can create lasting change.

LEARN MORE

COMMUNITIES OF LIGHT
October 26, 2026



We shine together.

For 25 years, **Communities of Light** has united neighbors, businesses, schools, faith communities, and organizations in a powerful tradition of hope during **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**.

As Younity celebrates its 50th anniversary, thousands of luminaries will once again illuminate Mercer County, honoring survivors, remembering lives lost, and sending a powerful message that no one has to face abuse alone.

When we shine together, we remind survivors they are seen, supported, and surrounded by a community that cares.

LEARN MORE

Want to stay up to date with Younity?
Visit our website for the latest news, upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and ways to support survivors throughout our community.

EXPLORE NEWS & EVENTS

Become an Anniversary Advocate

The first 50 years changed countless lives.
The next 50 begin with all of us.

As Younity celebrates five decades of advocacy, prevention, and hope, we're inviting our community to become part of the next chapter by joining our **Anniversary Advocate** monthly giving program.

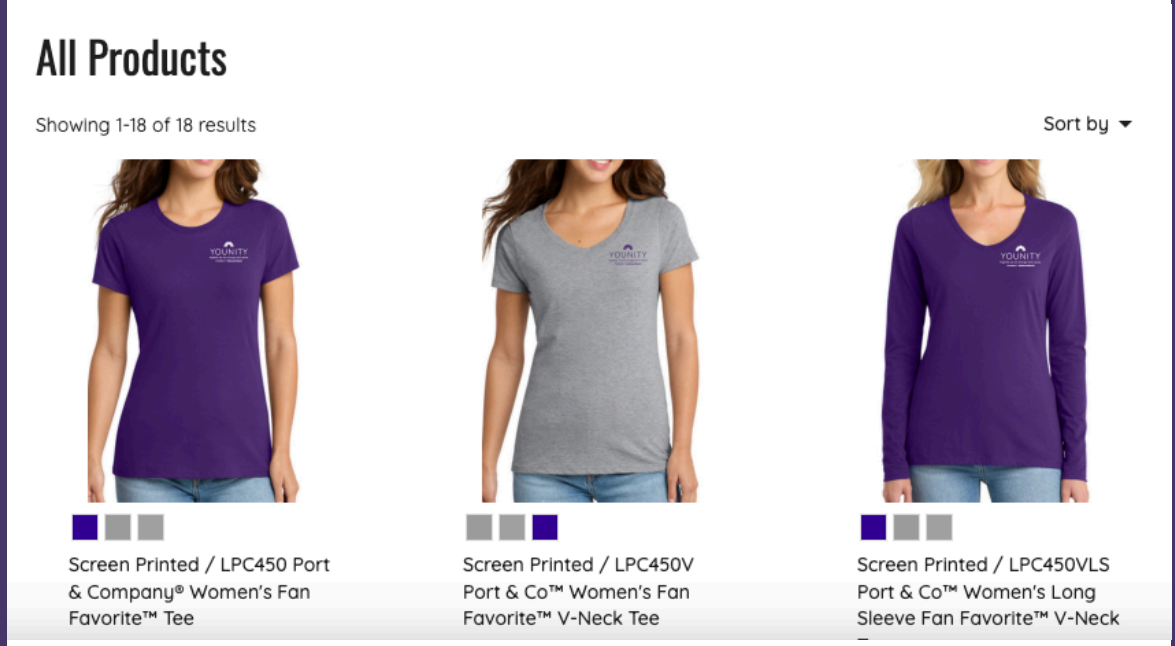
A recurring gift of **$50 or more each month** provides steady, dependable support that allows Younity to respond when survivors need us most and invest in innovative programs that strengthen our community.

Anniversaries aren't only about looking back. They're about choosing what comes next.

Become an Anniversary Advocate today and help build the next 50 years of hope, healing, and lives free from abuse.

BECOME AN ANNIVERSARY ADVOCATE

YOUNITY'S ONLINE STORE:
Wear Your Support



We're excited to share a new way to support Younity's mission. Our online store features apparel and accessories created for people of all genders, reflecting our shared commitment to safety, healing, and community.

Every purchase helps fund counseling, advocacy, and crisis response services for victim-survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Mercer County. When you shop, you're not just choosing meaningful merchandise — you're helping make safety and support accessible for those who need it most.

We are grateful to **Creative T-Shirt Printing** for bringing this collection to life and for their partnership in supporting our mission.

Thank you for standing with us in purpose and compassion.
Together, we are stronger than abuse.

SHOP OUR STORE

YOU DESERVE TO BE HEARD AND SUPPORTED
We Are Here to LIsten



Maybe someone crossed a line.

Maybe you're feeling uneasy about something that happened, but you're not sure what to call it.

Maybe you're feeling overwhelmed, confused, or just need to talk it through.
Whatever you're carrying, you don't have to carry it alone.

Our trained staff are here 24/7 to support you—confidentially, compassionately, and without judgment.

You can contact us anonymously by phone or chat. You don't have to give your name. You don't have to file a report. You can simply talk to someone who will listen and help you understand your options. You'll never be pressured to take a step that isn't right for you.

Whether you're calling for yourself or someone you care about, we'll meet you where you are. Our team includes bilingual staff and has access to translation services, ensuring that language is never a barrier.

What happened to you matters.
And so does what happens next.

We're here to help you take the next step—whatever that looks like for *you*.
Because when we work **together, we are stronger than abuse.**

24/7 ASSISTANCE

TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER THAN ABUSE

Your support makes Younity's work possible—from walking alongside victim-survivors in crisis to empowering young people with the tools to build healthy relationships. Every gift, no matter the size, helps create a safer, stronger community.

DONATE

Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}

{{Organization Address}}

{{Organization Phone}}

{{Organization Website}}

YOUNITY

Together we are stronger than abuse.

FORMERLY WOMANSPACE

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